June 2010 news releases

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06 2010 News

06/30/2010 - UM Dean Receives National Award - Perry Brown

06/29/2010 - UM Offers Online Courses In Nonprofit Administration - Marian Palaia

06/29/2010 - Ski Industry Produces Significant Economic Impact In Montana - Norma Nickerson

06/25/2010 - 'Griz Tunnel Run' Video Wins Silver In National Competition - Jim Foley

06/25/2010 - UM's Johnson Nominated For ESPY Award -

06/22/2010 - Open House To Be Held For Student-Built House - Alan Fugleberg

06/22/2010 - Rodney Carrington Performs Live At The Adams Center Nov. 18 - Matty Kerr

06/22/2010 - Former Griz Basketball Couple Drafted By Globetrotters - UM Sports Information

06/22/2010 - Economic Impacts Of Nonresidents In Montana Now Online - Norma Nickerson

06/21/2010 - Meeting Planned For UM Bitterroot College Program - Victoria Clark

06/21/2010 - Grant Endowment To Honor Longtime UM Administrator - Beth Hammock

06/21/2010 - UM Plans Study Of Athletics - Jim O'Day

06/21/2010 - Montana Public Radio Offers Free Workshop For Nonprofits - Christine Dascenzo

06/21/2010 - Volunteer In Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area This Summer - Erik Leithe

06/21/2010 - Time-Lapse Video Of UM Commencement Now Online - Gordy Pace

06/21/2010 - Town Meeting Set At UM To Discuss Federal Budget, Economy - Daisy Patterson

06/21/2010 - UM Hosts Camp For Young American Indian Business Leaders - Maurice "Mo" Smith

06/21/2010 - Montana Filmmakers Take 10 Emmys At Regional Awards - William Marcus

06/21/2010 - Registration Open For MOLLI Summer Camp At UM - Dannette Fadness

06/21/2010 - UM FLAT Featured In Missoula's Annual Sustainability Tour - Derek Kanwischer

06/21/2010 - Author To Speak At UM About Impressionist Painter Julius Seyler - Barbara Koostra

06/21/2010 - High School Students Can Travel To China This Summer - Suhan Chen

06/21/2010 - Kids Can Learn Chinese Folk Crafts At UM Summer Camps - Suhan Chen
06/21/2010 - UM President Interviews Set For September - Clayton Christian

06/21/2010 - Summer Program For Girls Offered At UM - Tricia Parrish

06/21/2010 - Paleo Exploration Project Chosen As NSF 2010 Highlight - Heather Almquist

06/21/2010 - Symposium Explores Educational Impact Of Training In The Arts - Jessica Carter

06/21/2010 - UM Research Center Approved By Board Of Regents - Leana Schelvan

06/21/2010 - Student-Athletes At UM Maintain High Grade-Point Averages - Jean Gee

06/21/2010 - Celtic Woman ‘Songs From The Heart’ Tour Hits UM Aug. 23 - Lucas Conder

06/21/2010 - UM To Webcast World Innovation Forum June 8-9 - Gordy Pace

06/21/2010 - Expert To Talk About Peer Support In Mental Health Services - Bob Liston

06/21/2010 - 2010 UM Graduate Receives Prestigious National Award - Jerry O'Malley

06/21/2010 - UM Announces 2010 Presidential Leadership Scholars - James McKusick
MISSOULA –

Perry Brown, dean of The University of Montana College of Forestry and Conservation, has received a Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units Network National Award for his role in pioneering and sustaining the innovative partnership program for conservation science and education.

The award honors Brown, who also serves as UM’s interim associate provost for graduate education, for his substantial work to support the network, which promotes collaborative efforts to support science-based natural and cultural resource management.

"Perry’s vision of how the CESU concept could be turned to such great advantage for both federal and university partners and his willingness to commit his time and energy and team of talented partners to the task has always been extraordinary," said Gary Machlis, science advisor to the director of the National Park Service and founding national leader for the CESU Network.

UM is one of the four original host institutions in the nation for the network, which includes 17 units representing biogeographic regions across the U.S. and its territories. The units serve a broad role as providers of research, technical assistance and education to federal land management, environmental and research agencies and their potential partners. Each unit consists of a partnership between a host university, multiple federal agencies and numerous additional academic and other partners.

"This award is really a reflection of the tremendous effort our team at UM has made in ensuring that the CESU idea has been successful in implementation," Brown said.

The CESU Network brings together scientists, resource managers and other conservation professionals from across the biological, physical, social and cultural sciences to conduct coordinated collaborative applied projects that address natural and cultural heritage resource issues in an ecosystem context.

"The Rocky Mountains CESU, which we host, has been a leader since the inception of the CESU idea," Brown said. "We have helped to lead the national network with ideas and administrative experiments, and through the years we have become very successful ourselves, executing a large number of projects that have had an influence on conservation programs both nationally and in specific locations."

The CESU Network National Awards were established in 2003 to recognize exceptional contributions to furthering the mission and goals of the network. This year’s awards were presented at the network’s national meeting, held June 22-24 in Washington, D.C.

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BD

Local, state

063010cesu

Contact: Perry Brown, dean, UM College of Forestry and Conservation, 406-243-5522, perry.brown@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Extended Learning Services and the Office for Civic Engagement at The University of Montana have partnered with the Montana Nonprofit Association to offer the Online Professional Certificate Program in Nonprofit Administration.

The program’s courses, which begin this year on Monday, Aug. 16, are offered entirely online and are designed for students seeking professional development in a promising field, as well as for busy professionals working in the nonprofit sector. Practicing administrators and others interested in building skills relating to nonprofit administration are encouraged to register.

Students may elect to pursue a certificate requiring 12 course credits plus a four-credit internship, or they may take individual courses for graded credit or for no credit. Certificate seekers must take all courses for graded credit. No formal UM application process is necessary to register for the courses, which run six weeks and 10 weeks with a per-course cost starting at $100.

The courses largely concern 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, but in many cases knowledge gained can be adapted for use in other types of nonprofits or government agencies. The program covers subjects such as strategic planning, grant writing, board and volunteer management, fundraising, ethics and legal issues. Courses involve, on average, about five hours of work each week for online readings and discussions, outside research and assignments.

To register or for more information, go online to http://www.umt.edu/xls/pds/programs/nonprofit/default.aspx, call Marian Palaia at 406-243-6324 or e-mail marian.palaia@mso.umt.edu.

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BD

Local, state

062910npft

Contact: Marian Palaia, program coordinator, UM Office for Civic Engagement, 406-243-6324, marian.palaia@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Ski resorts in Montana have participated in the first study of the economic impact of the alpine ski industry in the state, which was conducted during winter 2009-10 by the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research at The University of Montana.

The study found that 35 percent of skiers were nonresidents who contributed an overall impact of $83 million to the state. Nonresidents spent an average of $1,272 per group/ski trip while in Montana. Residents spent an average of $140 per group/ski trip.

Nonresidents represented all U.S. states and the District of Columbia, seven Canadian provinces, and 17 other foreign countries (Australia, England/U.K., New Zealand, Germany, Netherlands, Argentina, Brazil, China, Chile, Denmark, France, Ireland, Japan, Norway, Singapore, Switzerland and Ukraine). Residents drove, on average, 75 miles to reach their ski area, although distances ranged from two to 500 miles.

Sixty-four percent of resident skiers did not spend a night away from home, but 24 percent spent one or two nights away from home. Nonresidents spent an average of 6.66 nights in Montana on ski trips, with three to seven nights the most common.

Household income levels varied significantly between resident and nonresident skiers. Residents have a much lower household income than nonresidents. Thirty-one percent of nonresidents had household incomes over $150,000, while only 8 percent of resident skiers fell into that income category.

Throughout the state, 48 percent of nonresidents flew to Montana to ski, while 43 percent drove. Nonresident skiers at Whitefish Mountain Resort differed from other areas, because 17 percent of skiers took the train to access the Whitefish Ski Resort.

Big Sky Resort has the highest ratio of nonresident skiers (58 percent) compared to the other resorts. The next highest number of nonresident skiers was at Whitefish and Moonlight at 46 percent and 45 percent respectively. Red Lodge Mountain Resort and Bridger Bowl were the next highest in nonresident skiers (38 percent and 28 percent respectively). All other resorts were around 7 percent nonresident skiers.

Nonresident skiers were more likely to travel and ski with their immediate families. Residents were more likely to ski with friends. Skiing was by far the most popular method of going down the slopes (70 percent) versus snowboarding.

Reasons for skiing at a resort varied at each resort. Overall, however, location was the top reason for skiing in Montana, followed by terrain for resident skiers and reputation for nonresident skiers.

“This research is the first to document the alpine ski industry’s economic impact to the state,” said ITRR Director Norma Nickerson. “It reveals that nonresident skiers contribute significantly to our economy but also shows that skiing is cherished by many residents of the state. Montana is lucky to have a wide range of ski areas and prices to choose from.”


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NN/bd

Local, state

062910itr

Contact: Norma Nickerson, director and principal investigator, UM Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research, 406-243-5686, norma.nickerson@umontana.edu.
The University of Montana’s “Griz Tunnel Run” video won a silver award June 23 at the National Association of Collegiate Marketing Administrators annual conference in Anaheim, Calif.

The NACMA awards honor outstanding achievement in marketing and promotion. Awards are presented in 16 categories, with each category divided into three groups based on school size and conference affiliations. More than 650 entries were submitted for the 2009-10 year.

UM won silver in the Group II “Video Board Segment” category. The gold award went to the United States Military Academy. Drake University took bronze.

The UM video was produced by Chisel Industries, a Montana-based company. UM Executive Vice President Jim Foley supervised the production. View “Griz Tunnel Run” and other videos online at http://www.umt.edu/home/seetheheads.

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JS

Local, state, specialized western

062410tunn

Contact: Jim Foley, UM executive vice president, 406-243-2311, jfoley@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA -

Former University of Montana star guard Anthony Johnson continues to add to his legacy, as ESPN announced June 23 that he is one of four athletes nominated for a 2010 ESPY Award in the category of Best Championship Performance.

Johnson joins some elite competition for the prestigious award. The finalists along with Johnson include Drew Brees, Super Bowl XLIV; Michael Phelps, World Swimming Championships; and Shaun White, Winter Olympics.

"Wow that is some awesome company," said Johnson via phone from New York, where he and his wife will soon watch the 2010 National Basketball Association draft on television. "It is amazing and a blessing, and another great opportunity to receive."

The ESPYs take place Wednesday, July 14, at the Nokia Theater in Los Angeles and will be hosted by Seth Meyers of "Saturday Night Live" and televised live at 7 p.m. MDT, on ESPN.

Fans have a chance to select the winners by voting online at http://espn.com/espys or on the ESPN Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/espn.

All proceeds from the ESPYs and related events benefit the V Foundation for Cancer Research in memory of the late Jim Valvano.

Johnson, who scored 34 second-half points to rally Montana from a 20-point halftime deficit, became a national sensation in earlier this year when he led the Grizzlies to a Big Sky Conference tournament championship win over Weber State, which led Montana to an NCAA tournament berth. The game was shown on ESPN2

"My wife and I created a vision board, and believe it or not, on that board, one of the things we listed was ‘winning an ESPY Award,’” Johnson said. "After the Weber State game I told my wife ‘hey, I could win an ESPY.’ To find out today that I really have a chance for something that big is just incredible."

Earlier this week Johnson and his wife Shaunte Nance-Johnson, who played for the Lady Griz, were both selected by the Harlem Globetrotters in the team’s annual draft. The basketball-playing couple becomes the first husband-wife duo to be drafted by a professional sports team.

"It's been a great last couple of months, with the NBA tryouts, getting drafted by the Globetrotters, and now the ESPYs," Johnson said. "Today has been a whirlwind, with interviews from the national media and all. The phone has not stopped, and now with this, I guess things will continue to be crazy. We were going to go out and see more of the sights of New York tonight, but now I am just going to stay in the room, watch the draft and hope to hear my name called."

The Globetrotters’ annual draft is an invitation to the team’s fall training camp to vie for the opportunity of being a Globetrotter for the team’s 85th consecutive season of touring the world. Though he was drafted, Johnson’s main focus continues to be the NBA or playing overseas.

The Johnsons, both from Tacoma, Wash., were married in 2006 and joined the Griz and Lady Griz programs prior to the 2008-09 season for their final two years of collegiate basketball.

Johnson spent two seasons at Yakima Valley Community College in Washington before transferring to Montana. Nance-Johnson played one season at Northwest Nazarene in Nampa, Idaho, and one season at Yakima Valley.

Johnson wrapped up his brilliant two-year career with the Grizzlies by leading the team to its eighth NCAA tournament appearance in March.

Montana, which tied for third in the regular season, made the NCAA tournament after a riveting 66-65 victory over top seed and host Weber State at Ogden, Utah, in the Big Sky Conference tournament championship game.

Johnson scored a school and tournament record 42 points against the Wildcats, including 34 in the second half and UM’s final 21, as the Griz stormed back from a 40-20 halftime deficit in front of a national television audience. A No. 14 seed, Montana dropped a tight 62-57 decision to No. 3 New Mexico in an NCAA opening-round game.
played at San Jose, Calif.

Johnson was a two-time unanimous All-Big Sky Conference selection and finished his career with 1,124 points and is the only two-year Montana player to score 1,000 or more career points.

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Contact: UM Sports Information, 406-243-4749.
MISSOULA –

The Building Futures Program, a community partnership of The University of Montana College of Technology, the Missoula Building Industry Association and the Flagship Program will hold an open house for the Student-Built House from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 27.

The Bronze Level National Association of Home Builders Green Certified custom home, located at 2604 Roderick Way in Missoula, is valued at $340,000. It has three bedrooms and two and a half baths, with 1,484 square feet on the main floor and 742 square feet on the upper floor.

Raffle tickets for the home are being sold for $100 each. They can be purchased at the open house. Those who buy a raffle ticket at the open house will be entered into a drawing for a free ticket.

Purchasers must be 18 or older, and prize winners must be Montana residents. The raffle drawing will take place at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 26, at Farmers State Bank, located at 3130 N. Reserve St. in Missoula.

Ticket purchasers need not be present to win. For more information, call 406-543-4423 or go online to http://www.missoulastudentbuilthouse.org.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: For a photo of the house, e-mail alan.fugleberg@umontana.edu.

BD

Local, specialized western

062210hous

Contact: Alan Fugleberg, associate dean, UM College of Technology, 406-243-7608, alan.fugleberg@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Rodney Carrington will be at The University of Montana Adams Center on Thursday, Nov. 18, to entertain concertgoers with his comedy and music about the funny side of redneck lifestyles, women at bars, men acting like men and oddball sex.

Tickets go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday, June 25, for the live concert of his new tour, which begins at 7 p.m. and is for mature audiences. Tickets cost $49.25 plus fees, and are available at the Adams Center box office, by calling 406-243-4051 or 888-MONTANA, or online at http://www.griztix.com. All seats are reserved, and $2 per ticket will benefit the Rodney Carrington Foundation.

Carrington gained massive exposure from his appearances on syndicated morning radio shows such as “Bob and Tom” and “John Boy and Billy.” His often hilarious crude songs such as “Don’t Look Now,” “Little Things” and “Fred” have kept his fans new and old coming back for more.

His latest album, “El Nino Loco,” is the follow-up to his highly successful release “King of the Mountains.”

Carrington currently is enjoying a string of success that includes a Comedy Central special, his first DVD, “Rodney Carrington Live at the Majestic Theatre,” and a book titled “Coming Clean.” He also recently co-starred with Toby Keith in the film “Beer for My Horses,” which he wrote. For more information, visit http://www.rodneycarrington.com.

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Contact: Matty Kerr, marketing coordinator, UM Productions, 406-243-4719, marketing@umproductions.org.
Former Griz standout Anthony Johnson became a national sensation in March when he led the Grizzlies to the Big Sky Conference tournament championship over Weber State on ESPN2 and into the NCAA tournament.

Now Johnson’s game – and his story with wife Shaunte Nance-Johnson, who played for the Lady Griz – may soon be going global.

In a history-making move, the Johnsons were both selected Tuesday by the Harlem Globetrotters in the team’s annual draft. The basketball-playing couple becomes the first husband-wife duo to be drafted by a professional sports team.

“We are always on the lookout for outstanding players and, just as important, outstanding people,” said Sweet Lou Dunbar, the Globetrotters’ director of player personnel.

“The Globetrotters are very proud of our reputation for providing first-class entertainment for families of all ages, and Anthony and Shaunte epitomize the perfect combination of family and great playing ability.”

The Johnsons are currently on the East Coast, where Anthony is squeezing in a handful of final workouts with NBA teams prior to the league’s draft on Thursday.

After working out for the New Jersey Nets (who told him his jump shot is “NBA-ready”) on Monday, Johnson was in Boston on Tuesday to put his skills on display for the Celtics.

“When (the Globetrotters) contacted us, Anthony and I both thought we were getting punked,” Nance-Johnson said. “When he finally convinced us he was serious, we were just overwhelmed. We’re just so thankful that we continue to have these opportunities show up at our doorstep.

“It’s a huge honor that someone is interested in our basketball abilities. But the Globetrotters also represent character and service, and they have a history with the African-American community, which is important to us.”

The Globetrotters’ annual draft is an invitation to the team’s fall training camp to vie for the opportunity to be a Globetrotter for the team’s 85th consecutive season of touring the world. Though he was drafted, Johnson’s main focus continues to be the NBA or playing overseas.

“At this point Anthony’s A, B and C priorities are living out his dream of playing in the NBA,” Nance-Johnson said. “His second option is playing overseas.”

If the Johnsons opt for the Globetrotters route, Nance-Johnson would become the ninth woman in history to play for the franchise.

“When we finished our season (in March), I figured I was done. I had no thoughts about continuing to play,” Nance-Johnson said. “I just wanted to help A.J. fulfill his dream and move toward my own dream of becoming a teacher, coach and motivational speaker.

“It’s exciting to possibly have another opportunity.”

The Johnsons, who were married in 2006, joined the Griz and Lady Griz programs prior to the 2008-09 season for their final two years of collegiate basketball.

Johnson spent two seasons at Yakima Valley Community College in Washington before transferring to Montana. Nance-Johnson played one season at Northwest Nazarene in Nampa, Idaho, and one season at Yakima Valley.

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A No. 14 seed, Montana dropped a tight 62-57 decision to No. 3 New Mexico in an NCAA opening-round game played at San Jose, Calif.

Johnson was a two-time unanimous All-Big Sky Conference selection and finished his career with 1,124 points. He is the only two-year Montana player to surpass 1,000 career points.

Nance-Johnson played in a reserve role as a junior on Montana’s 2008-09 team that went 28-5 and advanced to the program’s 18th NCAA tournament.

She started 26 games as a senior at point guard on a Lady Griz team that tied for second in the Big Sky Conference and advanced to the semifinals of the conference tournament. Nance-Johnson led the team with 103 assists.

Also drafted by the Globetrotters on Tuesday were Mark Titus of Ohio State, Marqus Blakely of Vermont, Chris Roberts of Bradley and Derek Williams of Southern Methodist University.

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JC

Sports

062210glob

Contact: UM Sports Information, 406-243-4749,
MISSOULA –

The Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research at The University of Montana offers several new online publications that show the economic impacts of nonresident travel and expenditures in the state.

The research includes the direct and indirect impacts of the travel industry in Montana, including recreational expenditures and travel-related business, allowing readers to explore expenditure profiles and trends from 2002 through 2009.

“Tourism continues to play an important role in keeping Montana’s economy strong and diverse,” said ITRR Research Associate Kara Grau.

Nearly 10 million nonresidents visited Montana in 2009, down just a fraction of a percent from 2008. Those visitors spent more than $2 billion in the state, down 16 percent from the year before. Nonresidents also contributed more than 25,000 jobs and more than $660 million in labor income to the state in 2009.

“Although visitors to Montana spent less in 2009 than they have in years past, it is encouraging to see that the number of visitors is holding steady,” Grau said. “As visitors regain confidence in the economy, their spending will likely return to prerecession levels.”

The new ITRR publications are online at http://www.itrr.umt.edu/expendvisitation.htm. For more information, call 406-243-5686 or e-mail Grau at kara.grau@umontana.edu.

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BD

Local, state, tribal

062210itrr

Contact: Norma Nickerson, UM Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research director, 406-243-5686, norma.nickerson@umontana.edu; Kara Grau, ITRR research associate, 406-243-5686, kara.grau@umontana.edu.
HAMILTON —

The steering committee for the Bitterroot College Program of The University of Montana will hold a meeting at 3 p.m. Tuesday, June 22, at the Ravalli County Commissioners Meeting Room, located at 215 S. Fourth St. in Hamilton. The BCP Steering Committee is a public board and welcomes members of the public to observe and participate at its meetings.

Agenda topics will include operations, educational planning and fiscal issues. The meeting agenda is now available on the BCP website (http://www.umt.edu/bcp), click on “Meetings” under “Steering Committee”), by calling BCP Interim Director Victoria Clark at 406-375-0100 or by e-mailing victoria.clark@umontana.edu.

The BCP Steering Committee is a collaborative group composed of local Ravalli County stakeholders, UM officials and state higher education representatives. The committee is charged with planning an entity to provide responsive and sustainable adult and higher education opportunities to the residents of Ravalli County. BCP will offer 18 UM College of Technology courses in the Hamilton area this fall.

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VC/als

Local, specialized western

062110bcpm

Contact: Victoria Clark, interim director, Bitterroot College Program of UM, 406-375-0100, victoria.clark@umontana.edu.
The University of Montana leader responsible for student financial aid for 25 years will have a privately funded, need-based grant for students named for him. Mick Hanson retires this month after 40 years of service to the University.

To honor Hanson for his dedication to UM students, family members, friends and UM, colleagues have created the Montana Investment in Character and Knowledge (MICK) Endowed Grant Fund.

“The University plans to use the MICK fund for grants for students in good academic standing who have demonstrated financial need,” said Laura Brehm, president and CEO of the UM Foundation. “Making a gift to the MICK fund will be a wonderful way to help UM students.”

More than $5,000 has been donated to the MICK fund so far. The UM Foundation will continue to accept contributions to the fund in the coming years.

“Mick Hanson put his heart and soul into his work, and now his name will forever be associated with providing financial assistance for students to attend The University of Montana,” said Teresa Branch, UM vice president for student affairs.

To donate online, visit the UM Foundation website at http://www.supportum.org, click on “Give Online Now” at the bottom of the page and enter “MICK Endowed Grant Fund” in the special instructions box. Those who would like to donate also can send a check to the UM Foundation, P.O. Box 7159, 600 Connell Ave., Missoula, MT 59807-7159.

Hanson earned a master’s degree in business administration from UM in 1976. He began his career with the University in computer services in 1970 and then became director of Financial Aid in 1986. In addition to his work at UM, Hanson volunteered in the community and raised his family in Missoula with his wife, Sharon, another UM graduate. Their three children – Mindy, Bart and Clark – also graduated from UM.

For more information, call Curtis Cox, UM Foundation assistant vice president for development, at 406-243-2585.

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BH/bd

Local, state

062110mick

Contact: Beth Hammock, vice president for strategic communications and marketing, UM Foundation, 406-243-4609, beth.hammock@mso.umt.edu.
The University of Montana has contracted for an independent study to assess the internal strengths and weaknesses of its athletics program as compared with programs of peer institutions. The study will provide accurate and timely information as the University confronts challenging choices concerning the future of Grizzly Athletics. It will help assure sound and informed decisions about the future direction of the program.

The UM president makes decisions about the program in consultation with the Montana Board of Regents. With the fluid nature of NCAA conference structures and the possibility of realignment, it behooves UM to have the most accurate information possible about the current situation and likely trends.

The University will rely on privately donated funds to finance this important study.

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CBS

Local, specialized western, dailies

062110athl

Contact: Jim O’Day, UM director of athletics, 406-243-5348, o’dayjm@mso.umt.edu; Jim Foley, UM executive vice president, 406-243-2311, james.foley@umontana.edu
Montana Public Radio will offer a free workshop, “Your Mission, Message and the Media,” to nonprofit organizations in cities across the state starting June 30.

Christine Dascenzo, MTPR's outreach coordinator, will lead the workshop, which aims to provide tactics to improve communication that nonprofits can implement on their own, such as how to create strategic messages, maintain their brand and network online. Participants also will learn how to use MTPR’s events calendar, which provides nonprofits a free avenue to publicize their community events.

“It can be a real challenge for nonprofits to capitalize on media coverage and evaluate how they spread the word when they’re also managing an increased demand for services, shrinking funding and overtasked staff,” Dascenzo said. “This workshop offers clear, easy-to-use solutions.”

The first round of workshops will travel to four cities this summer:

- Kalispell: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, June 30, Flathead County Library Meeting Room, 247 First Ave. E.
- Helena: 1-4 p.m. Tuesday, July 6, Lewis & Clark Public Library Large Meeting Room, 120 S. Last Chance Gulch.
- Great Falls: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, July 7, NeighborWorks Meeting Room, 509 First Ave. S.
- Missoula: 2:30-5:30 p.m., Thursday, July 8, Missoula Public Library Small Meeting Room, 301 E. Main St.

“It’s a great chance for us to get out from behind the microphone and talk with folks face to face,” said Dascenzo, an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer who has spent the past year researching and developing ways to address nonprofits’ communication needs.

For more information or to register, call Dascenzo 406-243-4247 or e-mail christine.dascenzo@umontana.edu.

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CD/als

Local; specialized western; Kalispell, Helena, Great Falls media

061810mtp

Contact: Christine Dascenzo, Montana Public Radio outreach coordinator, 406-243-4247, christine.dascenzo@umontana.edu.
This summer, The University of Montana’s Wilderness Institute undertakes its sixth year engaging citizen scientists in monitoring ecological and social impacts in designated wilderness and wilderness study areas.

From early July to late August, the Wilderness Institute will take small groups of volunteers on three- to five-day backpacking trips into the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area and adjacent roadless areas in the Kootenai National Forest, just south of the Canadian border near Eureka.

Volunteers learn about invasive species, native plants, monitoring methods, and the natural history and wildlife of the Ten Lakes area. This year’s work will draw on volunteers from communities across northwestern Montana, and will provide the U.S. Forest Service more than 700 volunteer hours of collecting critical data on weeds and recreation impacts.

Trip dates and locations dates are:

- **Friday-Monday, July 2-5, Bluebird Basin**: Travel by St. Clair Peak to spectacular Bluebird and Paradise lakes and up into the beautiful Ten Lakes Scenic Area.
- **Friday-Sunday, July 9-11, Deep Creek Loop**: Hike around Mount Petery and along a portion of the Whitefish Divide Trail with views of the Flathead and Kootenai national forests.
- **Friday-Monday, July 16-19, Gibralter Ridge**: Traverse the scenic Gibralter Ridge from Big Therriault Lake to Grave Creek.
- **Thursday-Sunday, July 22-25, Stahl Peak**: Hike from Foundation Creek up past Mount Wam, looping around stunning Stahl Peak.
- **Friday-Tuesday, Aug. 6-10, Whitefish Divide Trail**: Hike Blue Sky Creek to Mount Locke, then traverse the Whitefish Divide Trail with breathtaking panoramic views.
- **Thursday-Monday, Aug. 19-23, Ten Lakes Scenic Area**: Traverse the heart of the Ten Lakes Scenic Area by majestic Poorman Mountain and the Wolverine lakes, returning via Therriault Pass.
- **Friday-Sunday, Aug. 27-29, Krinklehorn Pass**: Follow Williams Creek over a beautiful alpine pass, looping around Krinklehorn and Krag peaks.

For more information about the project or to volunteer, call 406-243-5361, e-mail erik.leithe@cfc.umt.edu or visit the Wilderness Institute’s website at [http://www.cfc.umt.edu/wi/citizen_science.html](http://www.cfc.umt.edu/wi/citizen_science.html).

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ELJs

Local, specialized western, Eureka media, Libby media, Flathead media

061710wild

**Contact:** Erik Leithe, UM Wilderness Institute outreach coordinator, 406-243-5361, erik.leithe@cfc.umontana.edu
MISSOULA –

A time-lapse video of The University of Montana’s 2010 Commencement ceremony held May 15 on the Oval and the preparation that occurred the day before is now posted on the University’s official YouTube channel at http://www.youtube.com/universityofmontana.

UM School of Journalism student Devin Schmit took a photograph once every minute during the transformation of the Oval on May 14 from its usual park-like setting into the site of a massive stage and 10,000 white chairs, as well as during the ceremony that occurred the following day. The UM Department of Information Technology then used nearly 1,000 of the photographs to create the 62-second video.

UM’s 2010 Commencement ceremony was held on the Oval for the first time in the University’s 117-year history.

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JS

Local

061610laps

Contact: Gordy Pace, director of IT Communications, UM Information Technology, 406-243-2371, gordy.pace@umontana.edu.
Thousands of Americans representing U.S. demographic diversity will come together Saturday, June 26, to weigh in on the strategies the nation can take to ensure a strong economic recovery and a sustainable fiscal future.

“AmericaSpeaks: Our Budget, Our Economy” town meetings will take place at The University of Montana in Missoula and in cities across the nation linked by satellite and webcast technology.

The public is invited to join the town meeting at UM from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the University Center. Participation is free, but seating is limited and registration is required online at http://USABudgetDiscussion.org or by calling 866-755-6263. The registration form also can be mailed to AmericaSpeaks, PO Box 623, Oxon Hill, MD 20750-0623 or faxed to 301-567-9553.

The public deliberation will be thoughtful and highly facilitated to produce recommendations that are grounded in the best information available. Participants will learn about the issue from experts, deliberate locally and share their ideas with others across the nation. They will use keypad polling and groupware computer technology to register their priorities.

“AmericaSpeaks” will work closely with a bipartisan group of economists and experts to develop choices that will be put before the public. A diverse national advisory committee representing experts and advocates from across the political spectrum will review the content and provide feedback. More information about the members of the national advisory committee is available online at http://USABudgetDiscussion.org.

The project is made possible by a diverse group of private foundations, including the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

More information about “AmericaSpeaks” is online at http://americaspeaks.org.

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BD

Local, state, tribal

061610econ

Contact: Daisy Patterson, UM Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy, 406-360-9204, daisy@cnrep.org.
American Indian students entering grades 7 and 8 this fall are at The University of Montana this week for an INDigi-Biz 101 Summer Business Leaders Camp.

UM’s School of Business Administration, in partnership with the American Indian Business Leaders, received a grant from the Montana GEAR UP program to conduct the weeklong camp that offers a comprehensive, hands-on academic program that immerses students in business, leadership and entrepreneurship.

The camp runs through Friday, June 18, at UM. Twenty-six Native American youth were selected from across the state to participate and learn about business from both an indigenous and contemporary perspective. Through a Native American lens, they will see snapshots of the business world, make friends with students from other tribes, and live and study in a university campus setting.

Members of UM’s American Indian Business Leaders are serving as camp staff, advisers, and mentors – sharing their knowledge, experience and insight.

At the end of the week, students will attend a luncheon at the newly opened Payne Family Native American Center at UM to present their final projects to family, friends and local business people.

“We are proud to support and participate in the camp,” said Don Luke, business banking specialist with Wells Fargo Bank in Missoula. “It offers an opportunity to nurture economic growth, innovation and the American dream.”

The UM event is one of four camps this summer that provides a unique, reflective experience to geographically dispersed American Indian students interested in business and entrepreneurship, while using technology and enhancing their skills in financial literacy, business communication and marketing.

American Indian Business Leaders is a national nonprofit organization whose mission is to increase the representation of American Indians and Alaska Natives in business or entrepreneurship through education and leadership development opportunities. For more information, visit http://www.aibl.org.

Following are the UM camp participants’ names, tribe and middle school:

- Emilie Charlo (Salish), St. Ignatius
- Kourtney Chavez (Crow), Hardin
- Tiffany Clubfoote (Cheyenne), Lame Deer
- Erica Denney (Blackfeet), Heart Butte
- Elvin DogTakingGun (Blackfeet), Heart Butte
- Antonio Galaz, Hardin
- Greg Hall (Blackfeet), Browning
- Ashley Heavy Runner (Blackfeet), Browning
- Vernice Hugs (Crow), Hardin
- Tiana Iron Horse (Crow), Lodge Grass
- Alyssa LaMere (Chippewa Cree), Box Elder
- Tia Littlelight (Crow), Lodge Grass
- Calista Magpie (Cheyenne/Arapaho), St. Ignatius
- Isaac Manson (Navajo), Hardin
- Keaunna Mason (Crow), Hardin
- Joshua Nepoose (Chippewa Cree), Box Elder
- Tiauna New Breast (Blackfeet), Browning
The University of Montana

Lia Rattler (Blackfeet), Browning
Kyle Reed (Crow), Harding
Brianna Skunkcap (Blackfeet), Browning
Jaissa Spotted Wolf (Northern Cheyenne), Lame Deer
Dana Sutherland (Crow), Box Elder
Jude The Boy (Chippewa Cree), Box Elder
Franklin Two Bulls (Crow/ Sioux), Hardin
Than WolfChief (Chippewa Cree), Box Elder
Logan Williamson (Blackfeet), Heart Butte
ShyAnna Willson (Crow), Hardin

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MS/bd

Local, tribal

061510camp

**Contact:** Maurice "Mo" Smith, executive director, American Indian Business Leaders, 406-396-5442, maurice.smith@aibl.org.
MISSOULA –

Calling it a “big Montana night,” filmmakers from MontanaPBS and students from The University of Montana and Montana State University won Emmys in 10 different categories at the Northwest Regional Emmy Awards held June 5.

MontanaPBS productions “Never Long Gone: The Mission Mountain Wood Band Story” and “Before There Were Parks: Yellowstone and Glacier through Native Eyes” each won two Emmys. MontanaPBS also won Emmys for “A Conversation with Walter,” a program about Walter Bruening of Great Falls, one of the world’s oldest men at 113, and “Playing for the World: The 1904 Indian Girls Basketball Team,” a program about an all-girl basketball team from Fort Shaw.

Winning UM programs were unique in the topics they tackled, said Department of Radio-Television Associate Professor Denise Dowling.

The UM student-produced documentary “Unspoken: Voices of Suicide in Montana” received the award in the News-Long Form category. Dowling and UM Adjunct Professor Gita Saedi-Kiely were faculty advisers for the documentary. Produced by 16 UM students last year, the documentary has received acclaim from suicide prevention experts and has been used in seminars around the nation.

UM also won a student Emmy in the News-Short Form category for “Lissie’s Luv Yums,” a profile of a small dog biscuit company run by a woman with developmental disabilities because of fetal alcohol syndrome. Dowling and UM Department of Radio-Television Chair Ray Ekness advised.

MSU student filmmakers took Emmys as double winners in the entertainment category for “Terra 407: Montana Fare” and “Disturbance.”

MontanaPBS winning productions and their Emmy categories are:

- “Never Long Gone: The Mission Mountain Wood Band Story” – Director of a Program and Editor of a Program categories: Michael Ballard and Shasta Grenier.

Montana winners in the Northwest Regional College Student Awards of Excellence were:

- “Unspoken: Voices of Suicide in Montana,” UM Department of Radio-Television – News-Long Form category: Breanna Roy, producer; Badria Al-Abdullah, Lindsay Alvestad, Melissa Berry, Samantha Bury, Owen Brown, Amanda Ferrucci, Kelly Hanson, Kris Hanson, Teal Kenny, Rob Norton, Caitlin Mallory, Noel Pederson, Liam Scholey, Allyson Weller, Jordan Treece. Denise Dowling and Gita Saedi Kiely, advisers.
- “Terra 407: Montana Fare,” MSU School of Film & Photography – Entertainment category: Jaime Jelenchick Jacobsen, producer; Andy Adkins, series producer; Daniel Schmidt, series producer; Dawson Dunning, cinematographer; Scott Stebbins, music composer. Theo Lipfert, Dennis Alg, Walter Metz and Philip Savoie, advisers.

MontanaPBS is a collaborative service of UM and MSU with stations in Missoula and Bozeman. This year, personnel from MontanaPBS received 14 Emmy nominations. For more information about MontanaPBS go online to http://www.montanapbs.org .

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Montana Filmmakers Take 10 Emmys At Regional Awards - UM News - The University Of Montana

Contact: William Marcus, director, UM Broadcast Media Center, 406-243-4154, william.marcus@umontana.edu; Aaron Pruitt, MontanaPBS director of programming, 406-994-5021, aaron.pruitt@montanapbs.org.
MISSOULA —

Registration is now open for “MOLLI Summer Adventures in Science: Connecting the Circle,” a summer camp for children ages 6 through 12 and their grandparents hosted by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at The University of Montana.

The science day camp will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, July 12-13, in the Skaggs Building at UM. Participants will learn from one another in scientific exploration through classroom and field experiences, starting with “Magic with Chemistry” with Professor Garon “G. Wiz” Smith. Participants also can sign up for one of these remaining courses:

- “Art and the Brain,” Christopher Comer, UM biology professor and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.
- “Backyard Biology,” Allison Perkins, Ph.D., community educator.

Tuition is $100 per pair and includes a $20 MOLLI membership, which extends through June 2011. Need-based tuition waivers are available by calling UM Continuing Education at 406-243-2905. For full course descriptions, information about instructors and registration forms, go online to http://www.umt.edu/ce/plus50 .

MOLLI will collaborate with spectrUM and use a grant from the National Science Foundation’s Office of Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research to host the camp.

For more information, call MOLLI’s Dannette Fadness at 406-243-2905 or e-mail dannette.fadness@umontana.edu .

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DF/als

Local, dailies, specialized western

061010camp

Contact: Dannette Fadness, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UM, 406-243-2905, dannette.fadness@umontana.edu.
UM FLAT Featured In Missoula's Annual Sustainability Tour - UM News - The University Of Montana

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Forum for Living with Appropriate Technology (UM FLAT) is a featured site on the “Sustainability: Options for Everyone” tour from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 12, in Missoula.

Those who participate in the tour will see nine Missoula residences and learn how to implement sustainable practices in their own lives.

UM FLAT, a student-run demonstration home located at 633 S. Fifth St. E. in Missoula, illustrates the practicality of sustainable living with the goal of encouraging the development of efficient and affordable homes. The tour is a chance to see current innovations at the UM FLAT, such as the expanded permaculture garden, real-time energy monitoring system, and use of passive solar techniques and natural light.

The annual tour, hosted by homeWORD, offers several transportation options, including a guided bus tour at $25 per person, a moped tour at $20 per person, and bike and walking tours at $10 per person. The bike and walking tours are free for kids 12 and under.

Tickets and more information about all tour options are available on homeWORD’s website at http://homeword.org/2010sustainabilitytours.htm .

For more information about UM FLAT, visit http://www.umt.edu/umflat , call project coordinator Derek Kanwischer at 406-579-3244 or e-mail umflat@gmail.com .

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Local, specialized western

061110flat

Contact: Derek Kanwischer, UM FLAT project coordinator, 406-579-3244, umflat@gmail.com.
MISSOULA –

William Farr, author of "Julius Seyler and the Blackfeet," will present "Julius Seyler: An Impressionist Painter in Glacier National Park" on Thursday, June 24, at The University of Montana.

The presentation, which is hosted by the Montana Museum of Art & Culture and is free and open to the public, begins at 7 p.m. in the Montana Theatre of UM's Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center.

Farr is associate director of the humanities and culture at UM’s O’Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West and a UM history professor. He has written extensively on Seyler, whom he first encountered while on vacation in Vienna, Austria, after recognizing Amskapi Pikuni (Blackfeet) portraits from Montana and Glacier National Park.

His presentation will examine the relative obscurity of the important artist, his aesthetic style and his relationship to and adoption into the tribe.

The event is held in conjunction with the “Glacier National Park Centennial Exhibition,” which is at MMAC through Aug. 7. The exhibition celebrates Glacier National Park’s strong aesthetic legacy as seen through the traditions of the Amskapi Pikuni and the artist patronage of the Great Northern Railway. Works of Seyler are included in the exhibition, which also features Winold Reiss, Elizabeth Lochrie, Carl Link, John Fery, Edward S. Curtis, Tomer J. Hileman and Roland Reed.

MMAC is located in UM’s PAR/TV Center. Summer hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. A $5 donation is suggested, and free parking is available near the northeast corner of the center.

For more information about Farr’s presentation or the exhibition, call 406-243-2019 or go online to the museum’s website at http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum.

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Local, specialized western

061010mmac

**Contact:** Barbara Koostra, director, Montana Museum of Art and Culture, 406-243-2019, barbara.koostra@mso.umt.edu

MISSOULA –

The Confucius Institute at The University of Montana will host a 2010 Summer Camp to China designed for high school students. The trip will take place July 26-Aug. 10 in Beijing and Xi’an.

Students who are interested in China and Chinese culture will have the opportunity to climb the Great Wall, taste authentic Chinese food, learn Mandarin Chinese and more. They only need to pay the round-trip airfare from Missoula to Beijing, the visa application fee and international insurance. All other expenses in China will be paid by the Confucius Institute.

Participants will study Chinese language and culture in traditional classrooms. They will visit famous historical sites and learn paper-cutting, calligraphy, brush painting, the tea ceremony, martial arts and much more.

Applications for the trip must be submitted by Sunday, June 20. To download the application, go online to http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/ci/visitingChina.aspx. Students should submit the application with a letter of introduction that states why they want to join the camp, and they will need a letter of recommendation from a teacher.

Applications should be mailed to China Summer Camp Application, Confucius Institute at UM, Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812.

For information about airfares and visa applications, students can call Suhan Chen at 406-243-2895 or e-mail suhan.chen@mso.umt.edu.

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Contact: Suhan Chen, assistant director, the Confucius Institute at UM, 406-243-2895, suhan.chen@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Confucius Institute at The University of Montana will offer area children an opportunity to learn Chinese folk crafts at two weeklong summer camps to be held at the University Center.

Kids who attend the camps will learn Chinese calligraphy and how to make Shanxi-style dough figures, a traditional stuffed tiger, decorative appliqués and Tibetan wrapped ornaments. The camps are designed for elementary- through middle school-aged students.

The Confucius Institute now is accepting applications for Kids Camp 1 to be held from 10 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday, June 21-25, and for Kids Camp 2, which will take place from 10 a.m. to noon July 19-23. Space is limited to 15 students per camp, and registration is first-come, first-served.

The cost to attend a camp is $75 per child, which includes all materials. The deadline to apply for the June camp is Thursday, June 17. The registration deadline for the July camp is Thursday, July 15. Late registration may be accepted on a space-available basis.

The institute also will offer a Parent & Child Crafts Workshop from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 7, at the University Center. The workshop costs $20 per family and will be limited to 15 families. Registration, which also is first-come, first-served, will be open through Aug. 6.

To apply or for more information about the camps and the workshop, go online to http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/ci/culturalLectures.aspx, call 406-243-2895 or e-mail suhan.chen@mso.umt.edu.

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Local, specialized western

061010chna

Contact: Suhan Chen, assistant director, the Confucius Institute at UM, 406-243-2895, suhan.chen@mso.umt.edu.
The University of Montana Presidential Search Advisory Committee has completed initial candidate screening. Further screening will take place this summer, with campus interviews of finalists targeted for early September.

The committee is searching for the successor to UM President George M. Dennison, who planned to retire after two decades at the helm. Dennison will serve until the next president – UM’s 17th – is found.

“This search has attracted some amazing individuals,” said Clayton Christian, Montana Board of Regents chair. “The schedule we have developed for the remaining stages of the search process should facilitate broad participation in the campus interviews of finalists at the beginning of fall semester.”

For more information, visit the “UM Presidential Search and Transition 2010” website at http://www.umt.edu/potumsearch, call Christian at 406-728-1500 or e-mail clayton@stewartmt.com.

Contact: Clayton Christian, Montana Board of Regents chair, 406-728-1500, clayton@stewartmt.com.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana and public schools in Missoula County will offer a free opportunity this month for high school girls to explore science, technology, engineering and mathematics and to experience college life at UM.

Registration for the Summer 2010 Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics Experience (STEM) is now open, and space is limited. The program is for girls who will enter their junior year next fall. The 2010 STEM Experience will take place from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, June 17-18, at UM’s Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences.

The two-day program, created by math and science teachers from Missoula schools countywide and UM faculty members, is designed to give girls a greater awareness of skills needed to be successful in the 21st century through research-based, hands-on activities. The girls also will learn about campus life and what to expect when they attend college.

STEM participants can solve a mysterious crime scene investigation using state-of-the-art laboratories and forensic equipment, put a lab coat and rubber gloves on and see firsthand how we breathe, learn about some of the chemical processes that allow our bodies to function, use global positioning systems to navigate the UM campus, design a robot, explore scuba diving and more.

All participants will receive a UM gift bag, school supplies and other surprises to keep for the new school year. Lunch and dinner will be provided each day.

For more information or to apply, call Tricia Parrish at 406-243-4405 or e-mail tricia.parrish@mso.umt.edu.

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Local
060910stem

Contact: Tricia Parrish, UM Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, 406-243-4405, tricia.parrish@mso.umt.edu.
The National Science Foundation’s Directorate for Education and Human Resources has selected The University of Montana Paleo Exploration Project’s “DinoMap: Spatial Analysis of Fossil Finds in the Northern Plains” as one of its 69 Highlights for 2010.

Highlights showcase exceptional NSF presentations and serve to inform a diverse national constituency about the projects’ work and impacts.

Led by UM College of Arts and Sciences associate researcher Heather Almquist and geosciences Professor George Stanley, who directs the University’s Paleontology Center, the Paleo Exploration Project engaged K-12 teachers and middle school students from eastern Montana in the use of geographic information systems as a paleontological prospecting tool.

The novel approach resulted in the discovery of important dinosaur fossils, as well as many reptiles, invertebrates and plants. Participants also discovered evidence of ancient environments, including rivers, swamps, beaches and shallow seas.

During a series of workshops, UM Paleontology Center staff provided teachers with background on eastern Montana’s geologic history, formations and fossils. Professor Lisa Blank of UM’s Phyllis J. Washington School of Education and Human Sciences used a curriculum customized for K-12 teachers with little computer experience to build their competence in geospatial technologies. Teachers then were able to use GIS to evaluate geologic formations, topography, land ownership and road access to identify sites with potential for significant fossil deposits.

“The crux of the program has been to give teachers the opportunity to take what they had learned in the workshops into an authentic, field-based summer research experience with University scientists and students,” Almquist said. “The excitement around ‘doing real science’ was truly inspiring for teachers and students alike.”

The experience helped participating teachers develop and implement technology-embedded, inquiry-based learning activities in their classrooms, and some have started to train and mentor peers in their school districts.

In addition to giving teachers new skills, the project piqued students’ interest in science. It broadened participation of underrepresented groups in science and technology by focusing on teachers and students in an underserved region of the state.

Curriculum and outcomes of the Paleo Exploration Project are disseminated to education research and K-12 communities through national and international conferences and publications.

For more information about the project, go online to http://itestlrc.edc.org/paleo-exploration-project-spatial-analysis-fossil-finds-northern-plains or e-mail Almquist at heather.almquist@umontana.edu or Stanley at george.stanley@umontana.edu.

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Local, state

060810palo

Contact: Heather Almquist, associate researcher, UM College of Arts and Sciences, 406-370-0139, heather.almquist@umontana.edu.
A symposium and workshop this month at The University of Montana will examine the critical intellectual processes that training in the arts develops and the leadership role teachers play in the development of these skills.

“Leadership in Learning: Making and Thinking in the Arts” will run from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 15, in the Masquer Theatre of UM’s Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center.

The symposium and workshop, offered by UM’s College of Visual and Performing Arts, will delve into habits of thinking, as well as processes of conceiving, developing, shaping and refining ideas and concepts as an essential part of training in the arts and how those processes deepen and strengthen critical, creative and layered thinking in all other domains.

Presenters are Ellen Winner, a professor of psychology at Boston College and senior research associate for Project Zero, an educational research group at Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education, and UM Professor Randy Bolton, acting director in UM’s School of Theatre & Dance and a co-founder of Creative Pulse, a program designed to develop master teachers in the arts, sciences and humanities.

The cost of the June 15 symposium and workshop is $40. Office of Public Instruction credits are available. Graduate students can receive academic credit for participation in the full-week seminar, which will run June 15-21. For more information or to register, go online to http://umt.edu/xls/summer/programs/creativepulse.aspx, call Jessica Carter of UM Extended Learning Services at 406-243-6496 or e-mail jessica.carter@mso.umt.edu.

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Local, state

060810symp

Contact: Jessica Carter, UM Extended Learning Services, 406-243-6496, jessica.carter@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The National Center for Landscape Fire Analysis at The University of Montana was approved as an official Montana University System center at the May 28 Board of Regents meeting in Havre.

The approval formally establishes the center to provide research, service, education, training, and technology and application development to help active, on-the-ground natural resource managers make more effective and safe fire and land management decisions. The center designation gives UM regional stature as an innovative hub of wildland fire research, development, outreach and education.

“It formalizes our commitment to the University, to the region and to fire and land management,” said center Director Lloyd Queen.

In 2001 the Montana congressional delegation saw the need for a university-based fire research program to complement fire research conducted at federal agencies. The National Center for Landscape Fire Analysis was formed as a program in UM’s College of Forestry and Conservation to develop a research relationship between the University and the U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station.

Since 2001, the center has built a program of research and education in the areas of remote sensing, geospatial data management and information technology.

In 2008 the National Center for Landscape Fire Analysis entered into a new, long-term partnership with the University of Idaho and the U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station. The Wildland Fire Science Partnership provides base funding for the center and positions the center as a significant contributor to national fire research.

Visit [http://firecenter.umt.edu](http://firecenter.umt.edu) for more information about the center.

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LS/bd

Local, state

060710fire

**Contact:** Leana Schelvan, UM National Center for Landscape Fire Analysis, 406-243-6777, [leana.schelvan@firecenter.umt.edu](mailto:leana.schelvan@firecenter.umt.edu)
Nine of the 12 intercollegiate athletic teams at The University of Montana posted cumulative grade-point averages above 3.0 spring semester, and the students achieved a higher cumulative GPA than UM's undergraduate population.

The 286 UM student-athletes registered spring semester posted a team cumulative GPA of 3.06. On average, student-athletes completed more than 13 credits, and 168 of the athletes earned a 3.0 GPA or better.

The women’s cross-country and women’s track teams led the way with a 3.27 cumulative GPA. Women’s basketball, cross-country, golf, soccer and volleyball teams and the men’s cross-country team all earned GPAs above 3.2 spring semester.

Eleven UM student-athletes earned a 4.0 GPA, and 64 made the Dean’s List. To qualify for the Dean’s List, students must earn a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher and receive grades of A or B in at least 9 credits.

"We had a great semester in the classroom this term," said Jean Gee, senior associate athletic director. "I applaud, of course, the student-athletes for placing a priority on their academics. I also appreciate the coaches for recruiting quality students and supporting their academic endeavors. Finally, I give all the credit to Darr Tucknott and Jen Zellmer-Cuaresma in the Athletic Academic Services office for guiding the student-athletes in their academic pursuits."

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Local, state

060710athl

Contact: Jean Gee, senior associate athletic director, UM Intercollegiate Athletics, 406-243-5370, jean.gee@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Irish music phenomenon Celtic Woman will take the stage at The University of Montana’s Adams Center at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 23, for the second U.S. leg of their “Songs from the Heart” tour.

Tickets for the performance will go on sale Monday, June 7, at all GrizTix outlets by calling 406-243-4051 or 888-MONTANA or online at http://www.griztix.com. They cost $60 and $35, plus venue and ticket fees.

Because of overwhelming demand, Celtic Woman continues to delight live audiences with its extended concert tour across North America. The tour supports their fifth chart-topping CD/DVD, “Songs from the Heart.”

Formed in 2005, Celtic Woman consists of vivacious, versatile and charismatic Irish women. The extended tour will feature vocalists Chloé Agnew, Lynn Hilary and Lisa Kelly and fiddler Máiréad Nesbitt, whose diverse musical abilities and vivid personalities combine to create an enchanting blend of timeless tradition and contemporary craft.

In just five short years, this unique all-female ensemble continues to have mainstream success without the aid of traditional sales drivers such as radio or video airplay. No other group of this particular adult contemporary genre can claim 5 million albums sold, two Top 10 album debuts on the Billboard Top 200, three gold and platinum albums, four Top 5 releases on the Billboard Top Video chart and 1 million concert tickets sold. They have succeeded by connecting directly to fans via their public television specials, their frequent touring and then having those fans share the experience with friends and family.

Celtic Woman recently performed at the National Christmas Tree Lighting in Washington, D.C., and on ABC’s “Dancing with the Stars,” singing for millions of viewers, while their PBS TV specials have dominated the broadcast airwaves over the past five years.

For more information, visit http://www.celticwoman.com.

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MH/bd

Local, state

060310celt

Contact: Lucas Conder, director, UM Productions, 406-243-4981, director@umproductions.org.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will show a live webcast of the World Innovation Forum 2010, which convenes Tuesday and Wednesday, June 8-9, in New York City.

The conference will feature presentations from several of today’s innovation leaders on issues such as marketing and Web 2.0, social media, technology, education, green strategies and health care.

The event will air via webcast live in University Center Room 330 and is open to all University staff and faculty members. Seating is limited.

The conference schedule is:

**Tuesday, June 8:**
- 9-9:45 a.m.: Michael Howe presents “The Customer Is the Driver.”
- 1:15-2 p.m.: Andreas Weigend presents “Marketing and Web 2.0.”
- 3-4 p.m.: Biz Stone presents “Social Networking.”

**Wednesday, June 9:**
- 9-9:30 a.m.: Brian Shawn Cohen presents “Next Wave of Technology Innovation.”
- 9:30-10:30 a.m.: Wendy Kopp presents “Realizing Educational Opportunities for All.”
- Noon-12:45 p.m.: Ursula Burns presents “A Conversation With the CEO of Xerox.”
- 12:45-1:30 p.m.: Joel Makower presents “Strategies for the Green Economy.”
- 1:30-2 p.m.: Jeffrey Hollender presents “Building a Better World.”
- 2:30-4 p.m.: Robert Brunner presents “Innovation & Design.”

For more information on the conference or the speakers, visit the World Innovation Forum 2010 website at [http://us.hsmglobal.com/content/wifhome2010.html](http://us.hsmglobal.com/content/wifhome2010.html).

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JS

Local

060310inno

**Contact:** Gordy Pace, director of IT Communications, UM Information Technology, 406-243-2371, gordy.pace@umontana.edu
MISSOULA –

Cheryl Gagne, an internationally recognized expert on the role of peer support in mental health treatment, will speak at The University of Montana on Thursday, June 17.

Gagne will present “Peer Support and Mental Health: Where We’ve Been, Where We Are, and Where We’re Going” from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in University Center Room 332.

The presentation is hosted by the Rural Institute at UM and is free and open to the public.

Gagne is a research and training associate at Boston University’s Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation. She has worked in various roles in the field of mental health and addiction services for more than 25 years. Her special areas of interest are developing peer support workers, increasing social inclusion of people diagnosed with mental illnesses, and integrating health and wellness into mental health and addiction services.

Gagne trains and consults with mental health treatment and rehabilitation programs in the U.S., Europe, Asia and Australia to help them strengthen their rehabilitation and recovery orientation. She has collaborated with UM’s Rural Institute to develop curriculum that trains people to provide peer support for those with physical and sensory impairments who also have mental health issues such as anxiety or depression.

The Rural Institute at UM is part of the national network of programs funded by the Federal Administration on Developmental Disabilities. The institute is committed to increasing and supporting the independence, productivity and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the community.

For more information, call Rural Institute Research Associate Bob Liston at 406-243-5862 or e-mail liston@ruralinstitute.umt.edu.

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Local, specialized western

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MISSOULA –

Ryan Stevens, a 2010 University of Montana graduate who worked for University Dining Services at UM, was recently selected as the National Association of College and University Food Services Student Employee of the Year.

Founded in 1958, NACUFS is a trade association for food service professionals at more than 600 institutions of higher education in North America and abroad. The award is given annually to an outstanding food service student employee at a NACUFS member institution.

"As the saying goes, 'When you're hot, you're hot,' and Ryan Stevens is just that," said UDS Marketing Director Jerry O'Malley.

The NACUFS award follows a string of accolades Stevens has garnered this year. His exceptional work was acknowledged with Student Employee of the Year awards from UM, the state of Montana and the Northwest region. He then was honored with the National Student Employment Association's National Student Employee of the Year Award, which was presented by UM President George M. Dennison at an April 13 ceremony.

Stevens completed major projects at UDS that ranged from developing online data forms to overhauling financial-management and budget-planning systems.

"What makes Ryan’s prolific contributions so unique is, not only the importance of his projects to our organization, but that his contributions will serve us many years past his graduation," said UDS Director Mark LoParco.

Stevens, who majored in history at UM, has accepted a position with defense and aerospace corporation Northrop-Grumman.

“While he will be deeply missed at the University,” O'Malley said, “we could not be happier to see him advance in such an impressive manner.”

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MISSOULA –

University of Montana Presidential Leadership Scholarships have been awarded to 24 exceptional incoming UM freshmen.

The scholarships recognize outstanding talent, academic performance, leadership and contribution to the community.

This year’s scholarship winners were chosen from a field of more than 400 qualified applicants. Scholarship recipients become members of UM’s Davidson Honors College and receive a four-year tuition waiver and an additional $5,000 to $7,500 per year.

Montana’s crop of 2010 Presidential Leadership Scholars are Sarah Kinsey, Bozeman; Laura Cornelisse, Corvallis; Emilie Jacobsen, Payton Skawinski, Schuyler Watt and Matthew Weir, Great Falls; Rebecca Boslough, Helena; Tess Barker and Abigail Connolly, Kalispell; Margaret Matchett, Lewistown; Jeanette Comstock, Rose Dickson, Kathryn Newhart, Keogh Paulson and Rodolfo Villarreal-Calderon, Missoula; Allison Bye, Sunburst; and Kellee Glaus, Whitehall.

Seven Presidential Leadership Scholars will come to UM from other states. They are Skyler Hamler of Talkeetna, Alaska; Paige Ely of Carlsbad, Calif.; Larisa Carter of Reedley, Calif.; Jenna Lyons and Kathryn Tokle of Pocatello, Idaho; Andrew Hursh of Lake Quivira, Kan.; and Amy Sisk of Redmond, Wash.

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